



Complete Summary

TITLE

Hysterectomy: hysterectomy area rate.

SOURCE(S)

AHRQ quality indicators. Guide to inpatient quality indicators: quality of care in hospitals - volume, mortality, and utilization [version 3.1]. Rockville (MD): Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ); 2007 Mar 12. 91 p.

AHRQ quality indicators. Inpatient quality indicators: technical specifications [version 3.2]. Rockville (MD): Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ); 2008 Feb 29. 37 p.

Measure Domain

PRIMARY MEASURE DOMAIN

Use of Services

The validity of measures depends on how they are built. By examining the key building blocks of a measure, you can assess its validity for your purpose. For more information, visit the [Measure Validity](#) page.

SECONDARY MEASURE DOMAIN

Does not apply to this measure

Brief Abstract

DESCRIPTION

This measure is used to assess the number of hysterectomies per 100,000 female population.

RATIONALE

Hysterectomy is performed on patients with a number of indications, such as recurrent uterine bleeding, chronic pelvic pain, or menopause, usually in some combination. No ideal rate for hysterectomy has been established. Hysterectomy is a potentially overused procedure. Although the ideal rate for hysterectomy has not been established, several studies have noted relatively high rates of inappropriate indicators for surgery (16-70%).

As an area utilization indicator*, hysterectomy is a proxy for actual quality problems. The indicator has unclear construct validity, as high utilization of hysterectomy has not been shown to necessarily be associated with higher rates of inappropriate utilization. Additional clinical risk adjustment, such as for parity, may be desirable. Caution should be maintained for hysterectomy rates that are drastically below or above the average or recommended rates.

*The following caveats were identified from the literature review for the "Hysterectomy Area Rate" indicator:

- *Proxy^b*: Indicator does not directly measure patient outcomes but an aspect of care that is associated with the outcome; thus, it is best used with other indicators that measure similar aspects of care.
- *Confounding bias^a*: Patient characteristics may substantially affect the performance of the indicator; risk adjustment is recommended.
- *Unclear construct^b*: There is uncertainty or poor correlation with widely accepted process measures.
- *Unclear benchmark^b*: The "correct rate" has not been established for the indicator; national, regional, or peer group averages may be the best benchmark available.

Refer to the original measure documentation for further details.

Note:

a - The concern is theoretical or suggested, but no specific evidence was found in the literature.

b - Indicates that the concern has been demonstrated in the literature.

PRIMARY CLINICAL COMPONENT

Hysterectomy

DENOMINATOR DESCRIPTION

Female population in Metro Area or county, age 18 years and older

NUMERATOR DESCRIPTION

Number of hysterectomies in any procedure field among all discharges of females age 18 years and older

Exclude cases:

- With genital cancer or pelvic or lower abdominal trauma in any diagnosis field
- Major Diagnostic Category (MDC) 14 (pregnancy, childbirth, puerperium)
- MDC 15 (newborns and other neonates)

Note: Refer to the Technical Specifications document for specific International Classification of Diseases, Ninth Revision, Clinical Modification (ICD-9-CM) codes.

Evidence Supporting the Measure

EVIDENCE SUPPORTING THE VALUE OF MONITORING USE OF SERVICE

- One or more research studies published in a National Library of Medicine (NLM) indexed, peer-reviewed journal

Evidence Supporting Need for the Measure

NEED FOR THE MEASURE

Monitoring and planning
Variation in use of service

EVIDENCE SUPPORTING NEED FOR THE MEASURE

AHRQ quality indicators. Guide to inpatient quality indicators: quality of care in hospitals - volume, mortality, and utilization [version 3.1]. Rockville (MD): Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ); 2007 Mar 12. 91 p.

State of Use of the Measure

STATE OF USE

Current routine use

CURRENT USE

External oversight/State government program
Monitoring and planning

Application of Measure in its Current Use

CARE SETTING

Hospitals

PROFESSIONALS RESPONSIBLE FOR HEALTH CARE

Physicians
Public Health Professionals

LOWEST LEVEL OF HEALTH CARE DELIVERY ADDRESSED

Counties or Cities

TARGET POPULATION AGE

Age greater than or equal to 18 years

TARGET POPULATION GENDER

Female (only)

STRATIFICATION BY VULNERABLE POPULATIONS

Unspecified

Characteristics of the Primary Clinical Component

INCIDENCE/PREVALENCE

In a random sample of 642 hysterectomies, 16% of procedures were inappropriate based on patient indications, and 25% were uncertain. Another study found a 70% rate of overall inappropriate indications, varying from 45% to 100% across diagnoses indicative of hysterectomy.

EVIDENCE FOR INCIDENCE/PREVALENCE

Bernstein SJ, McGlynn EA, Siu AL, Roth CP, Sherwood MJ, Keesey JW, Kosecoff J, Hicks NR, Brook RH. The appropriateness of hysterectomy. A comparison of care in seven health plans. Health Maintenance Organization Quality of Care Consortium. JAMA1993 May 12;269(18):2398-402. [PubMed](#)

Broder MS, Kanouse DE, Mittman BS, Bernstein SJ. The appropriateness of recommendations for hysterectomy. Obstet Gynecol2000 Feb;95(2):199-205.

ASSOCIATION WITH VULNERABLE POPULATIONS

Unspecified

BURDEN OF ILLNESS

Unspecified

UTILIZATION

Unspecified

COSTS

Unspecified

Institute of Medicine National Healthcare Quality Report Categories

IOM CARE NEED

Not within an IOM Care Need

IOM DOMAIN

Not within an IOM Domain

Data Collection for the Measure

CASE FINDING

Both users and nonusers of care

DESCRIPTION OF CASE FINDING

Female population in Metro Area or county, age 18 years and older

DENOMINATOR SAMPLING FRAME

Geographically defined

DENOMINATOR INCLUSIONS/EXCLUSIONS

Inclusions

Female population in Metro Area or county, age 18 years and older

Exclusions

Unspecified

RELATIONSHIP OF DENOMINATOR TO NUMERATOR

All cases in the denominator are not equally eligible to appear in the numerator

DENOMINATOR (INDEX) EVENT

Patient Characteristic

DENOMINATOR TIME WINDOW

Time window is a single point in time

NUMERATOR INCLUSIONS/EXCLUSIONS

Inclusions

Number of hysterectomies in any procedure field among all discharges of females age 18 years and older

Exclusions

Exclude cases:

- With genital cancer or pelvic or lower abdominal trauma in any diagnosis field
- Major Diagnostic Category (MDC) 14 (pregnancy, childbirth, puerperium)
- MDC 15 (newborns and other neonates)

Note: Refer to the Technical Specifications document for specific International Classification of Diseases, Ninth Revision, Clinical Modification (ICD-9-CM) codes.

MEASURE RESULTS UNDER CONTROL OF HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONALS, ORGANIZATIONS AND/OR POLICYMAKERS

The measure results are somewhat or substantially under the control of the health care professionals, organizations and/or policymakers to whom the measure applies.

NUMERATOR TIME WINDOW

Institutionalization

DATA SOURCE

Administrative data

LEVEL OF DETERMINATION OF QUALITY

Does not apply to this measure

PRE-EXISTING INSTRUMENT USED

Unspecified

Computation of the Measure

SCORING

Rate

INTERPRETATION OF SCORE

Undetermined

ALLOWANCE FOR PATIENT FACTORS

Analysis by subgroup (stratification on patient factors, geographic factors, etc.)

DESCRIPTION OF ALLOWANCE FOR PATIENT FACTORS

Observed (raw) rates may be stratified by areas (Metro Area or counties), age groups, and race/ethnicity categories.

Risk adjustment of the data is recommended using age.

Application of multivariate signal extraction (MSX) to smooth risk adjusted rates is also recommended.

STANDARD OF COMPARISON

External comparison at a point in time
External comparison of time trends
Internal time comparison

Evaluation of Measure Properties

EXTENT OF MEASURE TESTING

Each potential quality indicator was evaluated against the following six criteria, which were considered essential for determining the reliability and validity of a quality indicator: face validity, precision, minimum bias, construct validity, fosters real quality improvement, and application. The project team searched Medline for articles relating to each of these six areas of evaluation. Additionally, extensive empirical testing of all potential indicators was conducted using the 1995-97 Healthcare Cost and Utilization Project (HCUP) State Inpatient Databases (SID) and Nationwide Inpatient Sample (NIS) to determine precision, bias, and construct validity. Table 2 in the original measure documentation summarizes the results of the literature review and empirical evaluations on the Inpatient Quality Indicators. Refer to the original measure documentation for details.

EVIDENCE FOR RELIABILITY/VALIDITY TESTING

AHRQ quality indicators. Guide to inpatient quality indicators: quality of care in hospitals - volume, mortality, and utilization [version 3.1]. Rockville (MD): Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ); 2007 Mar 12. 91 p.

Identifying Information

ORIGINAL TITLE

Hysterectomy area rate (IQI 28).

MEASURE COLLECTION

[Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality \(AHRQ\) Quality Indicators](#)

MEASURE SET NAME

[Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality \(AHRQ\) Inpatient Quality Indicators](#)

DEVELOPER

Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality

FUNDING SOURCE(S)

Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ)

COMPOSITION OF THE GROUP THAT DEVELOPED THE MEASURE

The Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) Quality Indicators are in the public domain and the specifications come from multiple sources, including the published and unpublished literature, users, researchers, and other organizations. AHRQ as an agency is responsible for the content of the indicators.

FINANCIAL DISCLOSURES/OTHER POTENTIAL CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

None

ADAPTATION

The hospital-based rate of hysterectomy was included in the original Healthcare Cost and Utilization Project Quality Indicator (HCUP QI) set.

PARENT MEASURE

Hysterectomy (Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality)

RELEASE DATE

2002 Jun

REVISION DATE

2008 Feb

MEASURE STATUS

This is the current release of the measure.

This measure updates previous versions:

- AHRQ quality indicators. Guide to inpatient quality indicators: quality of care in hospitals -- volume, mortality, and utilization [version 3.0]. Rockville (MD): Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ); 2006 Feb 20. 99 p.
- AHRQ quality indicators. Inpatient quality indicators: technical specifications [version 3.1]. Rockville (MD): Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ); 2007 Mar 12. 37 p.

SOURCE(S)

AHRQ quality indicators. Guide to inpatient quality indicators: quality of care in hospitals - volume, mortality, and utilization [version 3.1]. Rockville (MD): Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ); 2007 Mar 12. 91 p.

AHRQ quality indicators. Inpatient quality indicators: technical specifications [version 3.2]. Rockville (MD): Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ); 2008 Feb 29. 37 p.

MEASURE AVAILABILITY

The individual measure, "Hysterectomy Area Rate (IQI 28)," is published in "AHRQ Quality Indicators. Guide to Inpatient Quality Indicators: Quality of Care in Hospitals -- Volume, Mortality, and Utilization" and "AHRQ Quality Indicators. Inpatient Quality Indicators: Technical Specifications." These documents are available in Portable Document Format (PDF) from the [Inpatient Quality Indicators Download](#) page at the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) Quality Indicators Web site.

For more information, please contact the QI Support Team at support@qualityindicators.ahrq.gov.

COMPANION DOCUMENTS

The following are available:

- AHRQ quality indicators. Inpatient quality indicators: software documentation, SAS [version 3.2]. 2008 Mar 10: Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ); 2008 Mar 10. 43 p. This document is available in Portable Document Format (PDF) from the [Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality \(AHRQ\) Quality Indicators Web site](#).
- AHRQ quality indicators. Software documentation: Windows [version 3.2]. Rockville (MD): Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ); 2008 Mar 10. 99 p. This document is available in PDF from the [AHRQ Quality Indicators Web site](#).
- Inpatient quality indicators (IQI): covariates, version 3.1. Rockville (MD): Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ); 2007 Mar 12. 29 p. This document is available in PDF from the [AHRQ Quality Indicators Web site](#).
- Inpatient quality indicators (IQI): covariates (with POA), version 3.1. Rockville (MD): Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ); 2007 Mar 12. 29 p. This document is available in PDF from the [AHRQ Quality Indicators Web site](#).
- Remus D, Fraser I. Guidance for using the AHRQ quality indicators for hospital-level public reporting or payment. Rockville (MD): Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality; 2004 Aug. 24 p. This document is available in PDF from the [AHRQ Quality Indicators Web site](#).
- AHRQ summary statement on comparative hospital public reporting. Rockville (MD): Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ); 2005 Dec. 1 p. This document is available in PDF from the [AHRQ Quality Indicators Web site](#).
- Guidance for using the AHRQ quality indicators for public reporting or payment - appendix A: current uses of AHRQ quality indicators and considerations for hospital-level reporting. Rockville (MD): Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ); 2005 Dec. A1-13 p. This document is available in PDF from the [AHRQ Quality Indicators Web site](#).
- Guidance for using the AHRQ quality indicators for public reporting or payment - appendix B: public reporting evaluation framework--comparison of recommended evaluation criteria in five existing national frameworks. Rockville (MD): Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ); 2005 Dec. B1-4 p. This document is available in PDF from the [AHRQ Quality Indicators Web site](#).

- AHRQ inpatient quality indicators - interpretive guide. Irving (TX): Dallas-Fort Worth Hospital Council Data Initiative; 2002 Aug 1. 9 p. This guide helps you to understand and interpret the results derived from the application of the Inpatient Quality Indicators software to your own data and is available in PDF from the [AHRQ Quality Indicators Web site](#).
- UCSF-Stanford Evidence-based Practice Center. Davies GM, Geppert J, McClellan M, et al. Refinement of the HCUP quality indicators. Rockville (MD): Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ); 2001 May. 24 p. (Technical review; no. 4). This document is available in PDF from the [AHRQ Quality Indicators Web site](#).
- HCUPnet. [internet]. Rockville (MD): Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ); 2004 [accessed 2007 May 21]. [Various pagings]. HCUPnet is available from the [AHRQ Web site](#). See the related [QualityTools](#) summary.

NQMC STATUS

This NQMC summary was completed by ECRI on February 3, 2006. The information was verified by the measure developer on March 6, 2006. This NQMC summary was updated by ECRI Institute on May 29, 2007 and again on October 20, 2008.

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